

**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/901,293

Examiner

Jennifer Doan

Applicant(s)

O'TOOLE ET AL.

Art Unit

2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an interview filed on 04/19/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-35,37,39-45,51 and 52.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 July 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 041905.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephen J. Driscoll on April 19, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claim 38.

Claim 39, line 1, please delete "The feedback mechanism of claim 38" and insert
- - A feedback mechanism for use in parallel optics, said feedback mechanism comprising:

an optical assembly defining a plurality of optical paths, at least one of said optical paths being a transmitting optical path which extends from a light-emitting component of an OED to a cable assembly interface; and

at least one partially-reflective surface disposed across said transmitting optical path to reflect a portion of light transmitted by said light-emitting OED, wherein said partially-reflective surface is at an angle to said transmitting optical path such that the optical path of the reflected portion of light is not coaxial to said transmitting optical path and is incident upon a monitor for controlling the output of said light-emitting OED - -.

On page 1 of the specification (before "FIELD OF INVENTION"), please insert the following paragraph:

- - RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a Continuation application of International Patent Application Serial Number PCT/US00/30525 filed on November 03, 2000.- -

Reasons for allowance

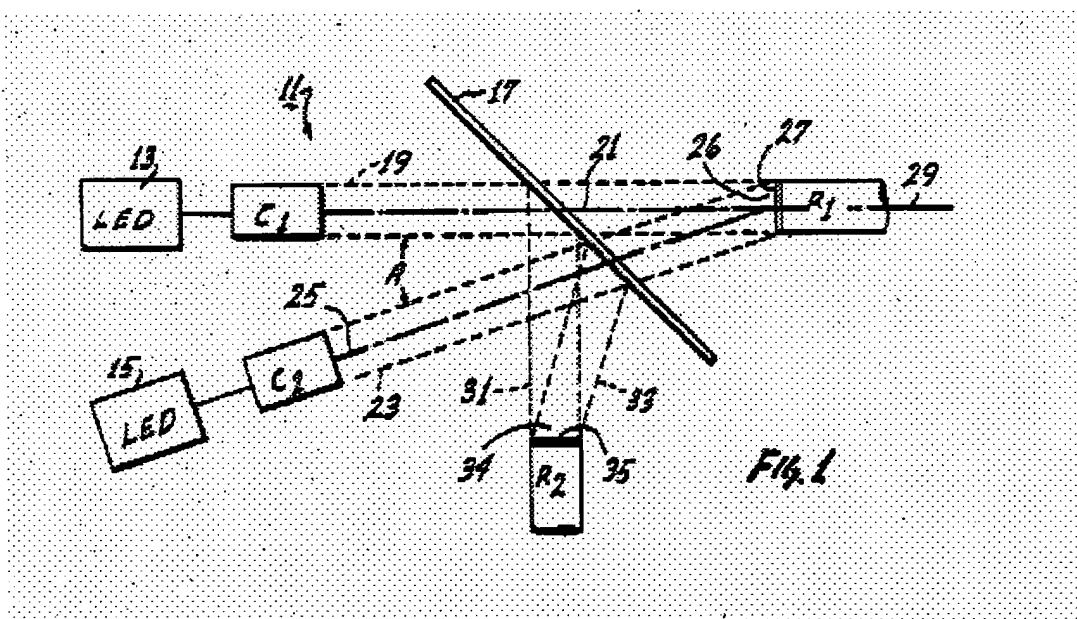
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the references discloses alone or in combination an optoelectric module having x, y and z axes comprising a plurality of OEDS for converting between optical and electrical signals; wherein the distance between the second ends of at least two optical paths is greater than the distance between the corresponding first ends and wherein the distance across the second ends along the x-axis is no greater than the distance across the first ends along the x-axis; an optical assembly and subassembly comprising a unitary structure of an optically-clear moldable material; a plurality of first lenses adapted for interfacing with a multi-fiber array of a connector assembly, each first lens corresponding to a fiber in the multi-fiber array; a plurality of second lenses adapted to cooperate optically with the OEDs, wherein each second lens is optically coupled to a first lens along an optical path to define the plurality of optical paths; further wherein a partially-reflective surface is at an angle to the transmitting optical path such that the optical path of the reflected portion of light is not coaxial to the transmitting

Art Unit: 2874

optical path and is incident upon a monitor for controlling the output of the light-emitting OED, in combination with the other limitations of claims 1, 21, 35, 37 and 39.

The newly cited reference, Buckley et al. (U.S. Patent 4,770,485) disclose an apparatus having a feedback mechanism including an optical assembly defining a plurality of optical paths which extend from LEDs; at least one partially reflective surface positioned across the transmitting optical path to reflect a portion of light transmitted by the LED, wherein the partially reflective surface makes an angle to the transmitting optical path such that the optical path of the reflected portion of light is incident upon the output of the LED. However, the Buckley reference does not specifically disclose an optical assembly with a plurality of first lenses and second lenses for interfacing with a multi-fiber array and cooperating with the OEDs.



Claims 1-35, 37, 39-45, 51 and 52 are therefore allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-2346. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 6:00am to 3:30pm, second Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

Art Unit: 2874

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Doan".

Jennifer Doan

Patent Examiner

May 2, 2005